

Even Start Request for Proposals

The State of South Dakota, Department of Education announces that potential funds are available through the Even Start Family Literacy Program to fund new programs. Although the administration recommended no funding for FFY 09, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program. Should Congress provide an appropriation, it is anticipated that funds totaling approximately \$305,690 will be forwarded to South Dakota from the U.S. Department of Education, \$287,348 of which must be awarded for new grants.

Funds must be used to improve the educational opportunities for children and adults by integrating early childhood education, adult education for parents, and parenting activities into a unified family program that builds on existing community resources to create a new range of services.

Eligible agencies that may apply for funding include local education agencies (school districts) applying in partnership with a community based or other nonprofit organization or a community based or other nonprofit organization applying in partnership with a local educational agency.

The process of selection will be competitive. Priority will be given to applications which (1) demonstrate that the area to be served has a large percentage or high number of children and adults who are in need of services, as indicated by poverty, TANF, illiteracy, unemployment, limited English proficiency, or other related indicators, (2) are school districts, (3) are rural areas, (4) are empowerment or enterprise zones, and (5) demonstrate an ability to operate an effective program.

The deadline for submitting completed applications is April 17th, 2009. Applications can be found at <http://doe.sd.gov/oess/title/Ipafb/index.asp>

Please send your completed application to:
Leslie Schweitzer
South Dakota Department of Education
700 Governors Drive
Pierre, SD 57501-2291